

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 HONG K 00722 140629Z
ACTION H-03

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8584

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T HONG KONG 0722

STATE FOR EA/P AND H

MANILA FOR AMBASSADOR NEWSOM

H PASS TO SENATOR JOHN GLENN AND NORVILL JONES, SENATE
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

FROM ROY WERNER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, SHUM, PINT, PGOV, OREP (STONE, RICHARD B.),

RP, US

SUBJ: SENATOR STONE VISIT TO PHILLIPPINES

SUMMARY: POLITICAL SITUATION STILL STAGNANT WITH ONLY
COSMETIC CHANGES PLANNED. BASE NEGOTIATIONS APPARENTLY GOING
WELL. I ASSUME HOLBROOKE WILL BE BRIEFING YOU SHORTLY,
THEREFORE I AM NOT PROVIDING DETAILS. END SUMMARY.

1. SENATOR STONE'S DISCUSSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION
FOUND MARCOS AGITATED. MARCOS ARGUES MARTIAL LAW IS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION AND NOTES HIS DIFFICULTIES
WITH THE SUPREME COURT. SENATOR AQUINO WOULD BE GRANTED
AMNESTY, ACCORDING TO MARCOS, IF HE WOULD "ONLY WRITE
A SHORT NOTE" REQUESTING AMNESTY.

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2. MARCOS HAS RULED OUT THE REVIVIAL OF POLITICAL PARTIES
IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE NEW LEGISLATURE, IN PLACE OF THE
SUSPENDED CONGRESS, WILL KEEP MANY OF HIS POLITICAL OPPONENTS
-- WHO ARE FORMER CONGRESSMEN -- AT A DISADVANTAGE.

3. INFORMED LOCAL OBSERVERS REPORT THAT SEVERAL CABINET

SECRETARIES MAY NOT WIN ELECTION, THEREBY FORCING THEM OUT OF THE CABINET. MOREOVER, MARCOS CLEARLY HOPES TO CONCLUDE REVISION OF BASE AGREEMENTS FOR HIS OWN POLITICAL GAIN WHILE DEPRIVING OPPOSITION OF AN ISSUE. THUS, PRESSURE IS LIKELY FOR INITIATING OF AMENDMENTS BY MARCH-APRIL, 1978.

4. RECOMMEND THAT IF YOU VISIT RP, YOU REQUEST THE AMBASSADOR TO ARRANGE SOCIAL AFFAIR SO THAT YOU CAN MEET WITH FORMER PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL. HE IS A DIGNIFIED AND IMPRESSIVE INDIVIDUAL.

5. TRAINING AND READINESS CONSIDERATIONS JUSTIFY RETENTION OF CROW VALLEY RANGE, WALLACE LIVE FIRE RANGES, AND OPERATIONAL AREAS. AS YOU SUSPECTED, VAST AMOUNTS OF ACREAGE IN ZONES ALPHA AND DELTA CAN BE DISCARDED. FURTHER RETENTION RATES AT CLARK ARE 55 PERCENT (EM) AND 35 PERCENT (OFF), BOTH WELL ABOVE USAF AVERAGES, THEREBY ATTESTING TO POSITIVE REACTION TO ASSIGNMENT.

6. MARCOS REFUSED TO COMMIT (HIMSELF? -- CONGEN ADDITION) ON UTILIZATION OF BASES BY U.S. COMBAT TROOPS DURING EMERGENCIES. AFTER SENATOR STONE ARGUES BASES WERE JUSTIFIED ONLY IF USEABLE IN EMERGENCY, MARCOS MERELY REPLIED, "WELL, YES, OF COURSE, BUT GAVE NO ASSURANCES. SERIOUS EVALUATION OF WHETHER U.S. INTERESTS BEST SERVED BY REASONABLY EXPLICIT WRITTEN COMMITMENTS,

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OR VAGUE LANGUAGE SUBJECT TO POLITICAL SHIFTS IS NECESSARY.

7. ALTHOUGH THE AMBASSADOR HAS INFORMED RP THAT SPRATELY ISLANDS ARE NOT CONSIDERED BY THE U.S. AS COVERED BY THE 1951 MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY, RP HAS EXTENDED ITS ADIZ TO THE SPRATELYS AND SEEKING AIR DEFENSE ALERT FORCE AT CLARK AFB. FURTHER, RP F-5A'S AT BASA ARE EQUIPPED FOR SPRATELY REACTION FORCE.

8. YOU SHOULD SEEK CLARIFICATION OF RP INTENT TO "ADMINISTER" THE CROW VALLEY RANGE. RP SIDE PROPOSED THIS TO HOLBROOKE, BUT MILITARY HAS NO SPECIFIC DETAILS. AGAIN, IT MAY BE DESIRABLE TO ENSURE SPECIFIC WRITTEN UNDERSTANDINGS.

9. F-4'S ARRIVE IN ROK CLOSE TO YOUR TIME ESTIMATE. DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE UPON MY RETURN.

10 USAF PERSONNEL CONFIRM WOEFUL STATUS OF RP RADAR OPERATION. RP MAINTENANCE A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM FOR JUSMAG.

11. CURRENT COST COMPARISONS FOR SHIP REPAIR, IN MAN DAYS, ARE: SUBIC \$23.16; SINGAPORE, \$30; YOKOSUKA, \$107.20;

GUAM, \$151; U.S. WEST COAST. \$200 PLUS.

12. LIMA RESIDENT, WILLIAM N. GUIDERA, 18, WOUNDED IN
SCUFFLE AT CLARK AFB. HE IS LISTED AS IN "GOOD CONDITION"
AT CLARK AFB HOSPITAL. GUIDERA HAD ORDERED A TRESPASSER
TO LIE DOWN, WHEN HE WAS JUMPED FROM BEHIND. HIS HOR TO
FOLLOW SUGGEST YOU WRITE HIM AND TELEPHONE FAMILY.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: MARR, MPOL, SHUM, PINT, PGOV, OREP, (STONE, RICHARD B)
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